Atty. Ref.: FP03-168US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Toshikazu Sakurai

Masayasu Fujii

Appl. No.

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Filed

Concurrently herewith

For

A JOINT CONNECTOR AND METHOD OF ASSEMBLING IT

MS Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement includes a copy of Form PTO-1449 that identifies three U.S. references. The relevancy of U.S. Patent No. 5,433,628 is described in paragraph 0002 of this application. The relevancy of U.S. Patent No. 5,645,455 is described in paragraph 0003 of this application. The other U.S. reference shows still another joint connector.

The Examiner is requested to consider these references during the examination and to make the references of record.

espectfully submitted.

Gerald E. Hespos // Atty. Reg. No. 30,066 Customer No. 001218

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Date: November 26, 2003

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EXAMINER INITIAL								
			Filing Date Concurrentl	currently herewith		roup Art Unit		
				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING I	
		5,433,628	7-1995	Sadaishi et al.				
		5,645,455	7-1997	Seki				
		2002/0009909 A1	1-2002	Kondoh				
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				FOREIGN PATENT DOCUME	NTS		т	
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Transla YES	NO NO
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 -				OTHER DOCUMENTS (Incl	uding Author, Title,	Date, Pertinent Pa	iges, Etc.)	
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Docket Number (Optional)

Form PTO-A820 (also form PTO-1449) Application Number